

Appl. No. : [REDACTED]
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F2 On page 75 before Claim 1, please delete the word "CLAIMS" and substitute therefore.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 13 as follows:

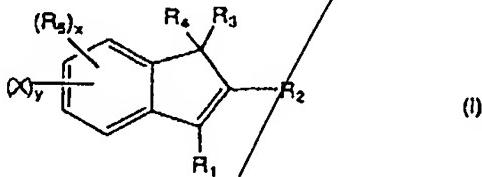
The present invention relates to the following items (1) to (22).

(1) A resin composition (a) comprising the following polymers (A), and (B) and/or (C):

(A) a polymer comprising one or more kinds of indene and indene derivatives represented by the following general formula (I);

(B) a polymer comprising polystyrene or a polystyrene derivative; and

(C) a polymer comprising a monomer copolymerizable with styrene or a styrene derivative:



(wherein R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, and R₅ may be the same or different, and each represents a hydrogen atom; a monovalent hydrocarbon group containing a nitrogen atom, an oxygen atom or a silicon atom; an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms; or a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group.

X represents a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, an acyl group, an alkoxy group or a nitrile group.

x represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 4, and y represents an integer of 1 to 4, where x + y = 4.).

(2) The resin composition (a) according to (1), wherein a diphenylsilicone (D) and/or a phenolic antioxidant (E) are/is added to the resin composition comprising the polymers (A), and (B) and/or (C).

(3) The resin composition (a) according to (1) or (2), wherein the saturated water absorption is 0.4% or less, and the birefringence in stretching the resin composition by 200% is in the range of -2×10^{-6} to 2×10^{-6} .

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(4) The resin composition (a) according to any one of (1) to (3), wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer (A) is lower than 80000.

(5) The resin composition (a) according to any one of (1) to (4), wherein the weight-average molecular weight(s) of the polymer (B) and/or the polymer (C) are/is 50000 or higher.

(6) The resin composition (a) according to any one of (1) to (5), wherein the content of the polymer (A) is 30 to 90% by weight of the total of the resin composition (a).

(7) A resin composition (b) comprising the following polymers (F), (G) and (H):

(F) a polymer comprising one or more kinds of indene and indene derivatives represented by the above general formula (I);

(G) a polymer comprising polystyrene or a polystyrene derivative; and

(H) a graft polymer having a structure where a polymer comprising at least one kind of indene and indene derivatives represented by the general formula (I) bonds to a side chain of a polymer comprising a monomer copolymerizable with styrene or a styrene derivative.

(8) The resin composition (b) according to (7), wherein a diphenylsilicone (D) and/or a phenolic antioxidant (E) are/is added to the resin composition comprising the polymers (F), (G) and (H).

(9) The resin composition (b) according to (7) or (8), wherein the saturated water absorption is 0.4% or less, and the birefringence in stretching the resin composition by 200% is in the range of -2×10^{-6} to 2×10^{-6} .

(10) The resin composition (b) according to any one of (7) to (9), wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer (F) is 4000 or higher.

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(11) The resin composition (b) according to any one of (7) to (10), wherein the weight-average molecular weights of the polymer (G) and the polymer (H) are 50000 or higher.

(12) The resin composition (b) according to any one of (7) to (11), wherein the content of the polymer (F) is 30 to 90% by weight of the total of the resin composition (b).

(13) A resin composition (c) comprising the following polymers (I) and (J), diphenylsilicone (D), and a phenolic antioxidant (E):

(I) a polymer comprising one or more kinds of indene and indene derivatives represented by the above general formula (I), wherein the polymer has a heterocyclic structure in a side chain thereof; and

(J) a polymer comprising styrene or a styrene derivative, and a monomer copolymerizable with styrene or a styrene derivative, wherein the polymer has a carboxyl group and/or a phenolic hydroxyl group in a side chain thereof.

(14) The resin composition (c) according to (13), wherein the saturated water absorption is 0.4% or less, and the birefringence in stretching the resin composition by 200% is in the range of -2×10^{-6} to 2×10^{-6} .

(15) The resin composition (c) according to (13) or (14), wherein the content of the heterocyclic structure in the polymer (I) is 0.01 to 5 mol% of the total of the resin composition (c), and the content of the carboxyl group and/or the phenolic hydroxyl group in the polymer (J) is 0.01 to 5 mol% of the total of the resin composition (c).

(16) The resin composition (c) according to any one of (13) to (15), wherein the molar ratio of the heterocyclic structure to the carboxyl group and/or the phenolic hydroxyl group is 0.1 to 10.0.

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- (17) The resin composition (c) according to any one of (13) to (16), wherein the content of the polymer (I) is 30 to 90% by weight of the total of the resin composition (c).
- (18) The resin composition (c) according to any one of (13) to (17), wherein the addition amount of the diphenylsilicone (D) is 0.01 to 1.0% by weight of the total of the resin composition (c), and the addition amount of the phenolic antioxidant (E) is 0.1 to 3.0% by weight of the total of the resin composition (c).
- (19) A molding material obtained by molding a resin composition selected from the resin composition (a) according to (1), the resin composition (b) according to (7) and the resin composition (c) according to (13).
- (20) A sheet obtained from a resin composition selected from the resin composition (a) according to (1), the resin composition (b) according to (7) and the resin composition (c) according to (13).
- (21) A film obtained from a resin composition selected from the resin composition (a) according to (1), the resin composition (b) according to (7) and the resin composition (c) according to (13).
- (22) An optical part using the molding material, the sheet or the film according to any one of (19) to (21).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 26 as follows:

The indene derivatives for use in the above polymer (A) include those represented by the above general formula (I), wherein R₁, R₂, R₃, R₄, and R₅ may be the same or different, and each represents a hydrogen atom; a monovalent hydrocarbon group containing a nitrogen atom, an oxygen atom or a silicon atom; an alkyl group having 1 to 6 carbon atoms; or a monovalent aromatic hydrocarbon group.

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Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 22 as follows:

P4
 α-substituted alkylstyrenes that may be employed include, for example, α-methylstyrene, α-ethylstyrene, α-propylstyrene, α-n-butylstyrene, α-isobutylstyrene, α-t-butylstyrene, α-n-pentylstyrene, α-2-methylbutylstyrene, α-3-methylbutylstyrene, α-t-pentylstyrene, α-n-hexylstyrene, α-2-methylpentylstyrene, α-3-methylpentylstyrene, α-1-methylpentylstyrene, α-2,2-dimethylbutylstyrene, α-2,3-dimethylbutylstyrene, α-2,4-demethylbutylstyrene, α-3,3-dimethylbutylstyrene, α-3,4-dimethylbutylstyrene, α-4,4-dimethylbutylstyrene, α-2-ethylbutylstyrene, α-1-ethylbutylstyrene, α-cyclohexylstyrene, and the like. Those listed hereinbefore are simply examples and α-substituted alkylstyrenes are not limited thereto. These may be used singly or in combination with two or more.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 10 as follows:

P5
 Catalysts for use in radical polymerization are not particularly limited, and publicly known catalysts may be employed. Such catalysts include, for example, peroxides such as benzoyl peroxide, lauroyl peroxide, methyl ethyl ketone peroxide and the like. Those listed hereinbefore are simply examples, and the catalysts are not limited thereto. These may be used singly or in combination with two or more.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 3 as follows:

P6
 In the resin composition (a), the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer (A) is preferably lower than 80000, more preferably lower than 40000. If the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer (A) is higher than 80000, fluidity and transparency of the resin composition (a) tend to decrease.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 30, line 6 as follows:

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The graft polymer (H) for use in the resin composition (b) has a structure where a polymer comprising one or more kinds of indene and indene derivatives represented by the general formula (I) bonds to a side chain of a polymer comprising a monomer copolymerizable with styrene or a styrene derivative. That is, the graft polymer (H) has a backbone unit of the polymer comprising a monomer copolymerizable with styrene or a styrene derivative and branch units of the polymer comprising one or more kinds of indene and indene derivatives represented by the general formula (I).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 4 as follows:

In the resin composition (c) of the present invention, the above polymer (J) comprises styrene or a styrene derivative, and a monomer copolymerizable with styrene or a styrene derivative, and it has a carboxyl group and/or a phenolic hydroxyl group in a side chain thereof.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 8 as follows:

Styrene derivatives for use in the polymer (J) include, for example, nucleus-substituted alkylstyrenes, nucleus-substituted aromatic styrenes, α -substituted alkylstyrenes, β -substituted alkylstyrenes, nucleus-substituted alkoxy styrenes, alkyl vinyl ethers, aromatic vinyl ethers, and the like, and specifically include the same monomers as the styrene monomers for use in the polymer (B) of the resin composition (a).

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 51, line 16 as follows:

Placed in a 100-ml flask were 14.0 g of styrene, 5.0 g of 4-methylstyrene, 1.0 g of butyl acrylate and 0.1 g of benzoyl peroxide, and the mixture was stirred to dissolve. Then, 60 g of distilled water and 0.01 g of calcium phosphate were added thereto, and the mixture was allowed to react at 70 °C for 12 hours with stirring. A granular polymer thus obtained was isolated and washed with hydrochloric acid. Subsequently, the polymer was dried at 50 °C for about 2 hours

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A 10

to obtain a polymer (C). The weight-average molecular weight of the polymer obtained was 240000.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-6, 9-12, and 15-22 as follows:

Claim 3. (Amended) The resin composition (a) according to claim 1, wherein the saturated water absorption is 0.4% or less, and the birefringence in stretching the resin composition by 200% is in the range of -2×10^{-6} to 2×10^{-6} .

Claim 4. (Amended) The resin composition (a) according to claim 1, wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer (A) is lower than 80000.

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Claim 5. (Amended) The resin composition (a) according to claim 1, wherein the weight-average molecular weight(s) of the polymer (B) and/or the polymer (C) are/is 50000 or higher.

Claim 6. (Amended) The resin composition (a) according to claim 1, wherein the content of the polymer (A) is 30 to 90% by weight of the total of the resin composition (a).

Claim 9. (Amended) The resin composition (b) according to claim 7, wherein the saturated water absorption is 0.4% or less, and the birefringence in stretching the resin composition by 200% is in the range of -2×10^{-6} to 2×10^{-6} .

A 12

Claim 10. (Amended) The resin composition (b) according to claim 7, wherein the weight-average molecular weight of the polymer (F) is 4000 or higher.

Claim 11. (Amended) The resin composition (b) according to claim 7, wherein the weight-average molecular weights of the polymer (G) and the polymer (H) are 50000 or higher.

Claim 12. (Amended) The resin composition (b) according to claim 7, wherein the content of the polymer (F) is 30 to 90% by weight of the total of the resin composition (b).

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Claim 15. (Amended) The resin composition (c) according to claim 13, wherein the content of the heterocyclic structure in the polymer (I) is 0.01 to 5 mol% of the total of the resin composition (c), and the content of the carboxyl group and/or the phenolic hydroxyl group in the polymer (J) are/is 0.01 to 5 mol% of the total of the resin composition (c).

Claim 16. (Amended) The resin composition (c) according to claim 13, wherein the molar ratio of the heterocyclic structure to the carboxyl group and/or the phenolic hydroxyl group is 0.1 to 10.0.

Claim 17. (Amended) The resin composition (c) according to claim 13, wherein the content of the polymer (I) is 30 to 90% by weight of the total of the resin composition (c).

Claim 18. (Amended) The resin composition (c) according to claim 13, wherein the addition amount of the diphenylsilicone (D) is 0.01 to 1.0% by weight of the total of the resin composition (c), and the addition amount of the phenolic antioxidant (E) is 0.1 to 3.0% by weight of the total of the resin composition (c).

A13
Claim 19. (Twice Amended) A molding material for use in optical parts, the molding material being obtained by molding a resin composition according to claim 1.

Claim 20. (Twice Amended) A sheet for use in optical parts, the sheet being obtained from a resin composition according to claim 1.

Claim 21. (Twice Amended) A film for use in optical parts, the film being obtained from a resin composition according to claim 1.

Claim 22. (Amended) An optical part using the molding material, the sheet or the film according to claim 19.

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Please add the following claims 23-30:

Claim 23. (New) A molding material for use in optical parts, the molding material being obtained by molding a resin composition according to claim 7.

Claim 24. (New) A molding material for use in optical parts, the molding material being obtained by molding a resin composition according to claim 13.

Claim 25. (New) A sheet for use in optical parts, the sheet being obtained from a resin composition according to claim 7.

Claim 26. (New) A sheet for use in optical parts, the sheet being obtained from a resin composition according to claim 13.


Claim 27. (New) A film for use in optical parts, the film being obtained from a resin composition according to claim 7.

Claim 28. (New) A film for use in optical parts, the film being obtained from a resin composition according to claim 13.

Claim 29. (New) An optical part using the molding material, the sheet or the film according to claim 20.

Claim 30. (New) An optical part using the molding material, the sheet or the film according to claim 21.

REMARKS

The specification has been amended for clarity and the claims have been amended to conform with the rules of practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. The specification has been amended to recite the International Application and priority applications. The word "CLAIMS" has been deleted and substituted by "WHAT IS CLAIMED IS" so that subsequently appearing claims will be the object of a sentence as specified by M.P.E.P. section